

COUNTRY

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REPORT NO.

TOPIC

Military Information from the Ohrdruf Troop Training Grounds

EVALUATION

see below

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE PREPARED 1 October 1952

25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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25X1

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25X1

1. Between 12:30 and 5 p.m. on 26 August, 12 rocket launchers  
guns and other trucks towing artillery pieces 17 trucks towing 85-mm AT  
in a small woods west of Petriroda, north of Ohrdruf (M 51/5 15),  
west of the Emsleben-Hohenkirchen railroad line. Trucks

25X1

drove along the Ohrdruf-Hohenkirchen road. A train with  
3 x 85-mm AT guns, 6 x 45-mm AT guns, 16 half track vehicles for  
transporting troops and about 10 trucks

25X1

passed through  
the Gotha railroad station toward Ohrdruf at 2:30 p.m. on  
27 August. Twelve 102-mm field howitzers were emplaced west  
of the Schwabhausen-Hohenkirchen road, and 15 x 76.2-mm field  
guns were emplaced east of the road, on 2 September. On 3 September,  
35 T-34 tanks and about 25 trucks

25X1

passed through Hohenkirchen toward Ohrdruf.

25X1

25X1

2. On 14 August, from 50 to 60 T-34 tanks and about 100 trucks  
at the road fork northwest of  
Crawinkel and east of the road. Troops there unloaded ammunition  
boxes into ammunition sheds. At least 10 tank trucks were also  
parked there.

25X1

25X1

3. In early August, about 11:30  
a.m. on 27 July, a heavy detonation was heard in the wooded area  
east of Ohrdruf, north of Crawinkel. It was felt as far as Gotha.  
Forest fires occurred after this detonation over the area  
and had not been extinguished by 3 August. The Jonastal (valley)  
and the road along Crawinkel were still blocked on 3 August. It was  
rumored that phosphorous ammunition had exploded.

4. At 4 p.m. on 21 August, a column of 36 sidecar motorcycles  
including one with a built-in radio set in the sidecar, about  
15 motorcycles occupied by 3 men each and 21 occupied by 2 men each;

CLASSIFICATION

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25X1

3 trucks towing 45-mm AT guns [redacted] 25X1  
 [redacted]; BA-64 armored scout cars [redacted] 3 [redacted] 25X1  
 armored sedans open at the top, each armed with a light machine 25X1  
 gun on either side and occupied by 6 men; 1 radio truck, 1 tank 25X1  
 truck, and 1 ambulance [redacted] passed through Ohrdruf 25X1  
 toward Wehlitz. The column had come from the direction of Gotha.

[redacted] wore red-bordered black epaulets with 25X1  
 artillery or with tank insignia. At 3:30 a.m. on 24 August, a 25X1  
 mixed combat unit assembled in the area of Petriroda-Hohenkirchen,  
 obviously to launch a practice attack toward the Ohrdruf troop 25X1  
 training grounds. About 50 T-34 tanks and SU-100 guns [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] about 30 trucks, each occupied by 25 men 25X1  
 with black-bordered crimson epaulets, rifles and submachine guns 25X1  
 and [redacted] 10 trucks

towing 45-mm AT guns, 2 BA-64 armored scout cars, [redacted] 25X1  
 about 10 armored sedans with AA machine guns assembled. An AAA  
 unit with 6 trucks [redacted] 25X1

including 3 towing 37-mm AA guns and 1 with a one-axle sound 25X1  
 locator took up position about 300 meters northeast of Hohenkirchen.  
 Seven 76.2-mm field guns took up positions east of Petriroda,  
 west of the Schwabhausen-Hohenkirchen road. Trucks [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] moved along the Ohrdruf-Gotha 25X1  
 road. They transported about 100 soldiers who wore red-bordered  
 black epaulets with artillery insignia, but they did not carry

25X1

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